IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The last paragraph of page 18:

FIG. 2 is a flow chart of a process 200 for updating a model of background noise according to the preferred embodiment of the invention. Referring to FIG. 2, in process block 202 an HMM ASR process is run on an audio signal that includes speech and non speech background sounds. Block 202 is decision block that depends on whether a long pause in the speech component of the audio signal is detected. If a long pause is not detected then the process 200 loops back to block [[202]] 204 and continues to run the HMM ASR process. If a long pause is detected, the process continues with process block 206 in which a characteristic feature vector that characterizes the audio signal during the long pause (i.e., characterizes the background sound) is extracted from the audio signal. After process block 206, in process block 208 a particular mean of a multi-component Gaussian mixture that is used to model non speech background sounds that is closest to the characteristic feature vector extracted in block 206 is found. In process block 210 the particular mean found in process block 208 is updated so that it is closer to the characteristic feature vector extracted in block 206. From block 210 the process 200 loops back to block 202.

2